

Message Text

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14
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SEC-01

FTC-01 JUSE-00 OMB-01 /059 W
----- 114323

R 150133Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8936
INFO AMCONSUL SYDNEY
AMCONSUL MELBOURNE
AMCONSUL BRISBANE
AMCONSUL PERTH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 6633

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, PGOV, AS
SUBJECT: LOCKHEED BRIBERY ALLEGATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 193181; (B) CANBERRA 3360; (C) STATE 108422;
(D) CANBERRA 3158

1. AUSTRALIAN PRESS HAS FEATURED STORIES TO EFFECT THAT
AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR PARKINSON AND ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY
GENERAL THORNBURGH HAVE SIGNED AGREEMENT ALONG LINES SPELLED
OUT IN REF. (A).

2. AFTER SIGNING, PARKINSON WAS ASKED BY PRESS IF HE HAD ANY
REASON TO BELIEVE LOCKHEED HAD MADE ANY ILLEGAL PAYMENTS TO
AUSTRALIAN OFFICIALS. PARKINSON IS REPORTED TO HAVE REPLIED:
"WE HAVE NO REASON TO DRAW ANY CONCLUSIONS ONE WAY OR THE
OTHER AT THIS TIME."

3. AUSTRALIAN ATTORNEY GENERAL ELLICOTT IS SAID TO HAVE
CONFIRMED IN CANBERRA THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN SIGNED, BUT
SAID THAT HIS DEPARTMENT HAD NOT YET RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION.
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HE IS ALSO REPORTED AS SAYING THAT THERE WAS NO SUGGESTION

THAT THE U.S. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HAD ANY INFORMATION
TO SUPPORT ALLEGATIONS OF ILLEGAL OPERATIONS BY
LOCKHEED IN AUSTRALIA.

4. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION IN THE SENATE FROM SENATOR
MCLAREN (LABOR, SA) THE MINISTER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE
SERVICES, SENATOR WITHERS, APPARENTLY ACTING IN HIS
CAPACITY OF LEADER OF THE GOVERNMENT IN THE SENATE,
PROMISED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD TAKE ANY ACTION
THAT MIGHT PROVE NECESSARY AFTER EXAMINATION OF LOCK-
HEED'S ACTIVITIES IN AUSTRALIA.

5. COMMENT: PRESS TO DATE HAS COVERED SIGNING OF AGREE-
MENT ON ROUTINE, MATTER-OF-FACT FASHION AND HAS SO FAR
NOT APPROACHED EMBASSY. NEVERTHELESS THIS ATTITUDE COULD
EASILY CHANGE AND EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT

UP TO DATE AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE ON DEVELOPMENTS IN
WASHINGTON AS REQUESTED IN REF (B).
HARGROVE

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Message Attributes

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